

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 093326

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /028 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER:SKG

APPROVED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 093326

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR SY LE

SUBJECT: SYRIANS BLACKLIST JOURNALIST

1. L.A. TIMES OFFICE HERE REPORTS THAT THEIR CORRESPONDENT, JOE ALEX MORRIS, WAS STOPPED AT SYRIAN BORDER APRIL 16 AND REFUSED ENTRY, ON GROUNDS HE HAD BEEN BLACKLISTED FOR PAST MONTH. MORRIS THINKS THAT HIS STORY SOME TIME AGO THAT KILLED SYRIAN REGULAR TROOPS HAD BEEN SO IDENTIFIED THROUGH THEIR ID CARDS IS ROOT OF PROBLEM.

2. L.A. TIMES WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ADVICE OR INFO EMBASSY CAN PROVIDE RE (A) REASONS FOR BLACKLISTING AND (B) WHAT CAN BE DONE TO CORRECT THE PROBLEM. ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMED FORCES, TRAVEL CONTROLS, JOURNALISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: vogelfj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE093326
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MDRAPER:SKG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760146-0404
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760451/aaaabrml.tel
Line Count: 46
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vogelfj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 JUN 2004 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <18 OCT 2004 by vogelfj>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SYRIANS BLACKLIST JOURNALIST
TAGS: PFOR, SY, LE, LOS ANGELES TIMES, (MORRIS, JOE ALEX)
To: DAMASCUS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006